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Taxation and Revenue Department Sets up Tax Fraud Hotline

For immediate release

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Santa Fe - The New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department (TRD) has a new tool to ensure compliance with New Mexico tax laws. The department has set up a tax fraud hotline that citizens can call anonymously, if they choose, to report suspected tax fraud.

“At Taxation and Revenue we are doing everything possible to collect all the money owed to the state,” said Secretary of Taxation and Revenue, Jan Goodwin. “Every dollar collected is revenue for the state. During the past year we have gone after delinquent taxpayers – with much success. Our efforts have netted over \$38 million. We expect that our new tax fraud division will increase the number of tax fraud cases investigated in the state, support voluntary compliance and at the same time result in increased revenue.”

The recently formed Tax Fraud Investigations Division (TFID) maintains the Department’s Tax Fraud Hotline. Citizens are encouraged to call the hotline to report suspected New Mexico tax non-compliance.

“We expect great results from this new tool,” says Alvan Romero, Director of TRD’s Tax Fraud Investigations Division, “Concerned citizens can call and identify themselves or call in anonymously. As a result, we expect volume to be high and, therefore, of great use to the investigators in identifying and pursuing tax violators.”

Callers can choose to remain anonymous or to leave a name and phone number that will allow a TFID investigator to follow-up. To protect the caller’s anonymity, the TFID Tax Fraud Hotline **does not** use Caller ID.

Romero, whose Tax Fraud Investigations Division has been staffed for the past four months, added that the Division has already identified dozens of cases that appear to be fraudulent. A number of former IRS agents, Certified Public Accountants and Certified Fraud Examiners have been amongst the employees, which have been hired to investigate tax crimes.

“With the hotline,” Romero said, “We expect those numbers to grow.” Romero added that his division will also partner with other state and governmental and law enforcement agencies to pursue multi-jurisdictional tax fraud.

To report suspected non-compliance with tax laws, New Mexico or United States citizens can call the TFID 24-hour Tax Fraud, toll free, Hotline at 1-866-457-6789. Calls will be answered Monday through Friday

from 8 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. After hours callers can leave a message that will be answered promptly. All reports will be investigated thoroughly.